**2025 Call for Papers**

**Research in Medical Education (RIME) Research and Review Papers**

Research in Medical Education (RIME) papers promote the transformation of health care through medical education innovation and research. Accepted papers will be presented at Learn Serve Lead 2025: The AAMC’s Annual Meeting and published in *Academic Medicine*.  
  
**RIME submissions fall into two categories: Research Papers and Review Papers**

1. **Research Papers** describe completed medical education research.
2. **Review Papers** synthesize existing research and provide direction for future research and practice.

This call for RIME papers includes the following sections. **Read each section carefully before submitting your paper for consideration:**

1. RIME Review Criteria for Research Papers (pg. 2)
2. RIME Review Criteria for Review Papers (pg. 2-3)
3. *Academic Medicine’s* Required Elements for Research and Review Papers (pg. 3-11)
4. About RIME in *Academic Medicine* (pg. 11)
5. Editorial Manager Submission Instructions (pg. 11)

RIME papers must be submitted using *Academic Medicine’s* submission platform, Editorial Manager. The submission window will open on **October 1, 2024,** and close on **December 2, 2024, 11:59pm PT**.

Please contact [educationalaffairs@aamc.org](mailto:educationalaffairs@aamc.org) with any questions.

* 1. **RIME Review Criteria for Research Papers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criterion** | **Description** |
| Title and Abstract | *How well do the authors:*   * *Encourage you to want to read the article based on the title?* * *Provide a clear picture of why the study was performed, the methodological details, the key findings, and the implications from the title and abstract?* |
| Intro and Conceptual Framework | *How well do the authors:*   * *Establish a clear conceptual framework?* * *Provide a context or explanation for doing the study?* * *Describe the importance and relevance of their work to the field* |
| Methods | *How well do the authors:*   * *Detail the study such that it could be replicated?* * *Describe the context for the study and who participated?* * *Describe how the study was executed, including data sources and analysis?* * *Use the appropriate analysis given the problem they are trying to address?* |
| Results | *How well do the authors…*   * *Present relevant data/outcomes based on the described analysis strategy?* * *• Report descriptive data (response rate, final pool of participants), inferential values (e.g. p values and/or confidence intervals), functional significance (effect size) and/or emergent themes and sub-themes?* |
| Discussion and Conclusions | *How well do the authors…*   * *Interpret the results of their study (Do the data support their conclusions? Do the conclusions relate to the purpose of the study?)* * *Relate their findings back to the conceptual framework?* * *State the implications and/or importance of their results?* * *Point out the most important limitations?* * *• Describe the potential impact of their results?* |
| Clarity of Writing | *How well have the authors…*   * *Written a paper that is easy to understand?* * *Addressed ethical issues with approval noted?* |

* 1. **RIME Review Criteria for Review Papers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criterion** | **Description** |
| Title and Abstract | *How well do the authors…*   * *Encourage you to want to read the review based on the title?* * *Provide a clear picture of why the review was performed, the methodological details, the key findings, and the implications from the title and abstract?* |
| Intro and Conceptual Framework | *How well do the authors…*  *• State the aim of the review?*  *• Describe the gap they are trying to fill and the context for doing the review?*  *• Establish a clear conceptual framework for how the review was conducted?*  *• Describe the importance and relevance of their work to the field?* |
| Methods | *How well do the authors…*   * *Describe the data sources used?* * *Describe how the review was executed, including the synthesis methodology, inclusion and exclusion criteria, reviewer tasks, and evaluation tools used by the reviewers?* * *Use the appropriate investigative methodology given the review question and aims?* |
| Results | *How well do the authors summarize relevant findings from the review based on the described framework?* |
| Discussion and Conclusions | *How well do the authors…*   * *Interpret the results and make conclusions?* * *Relate their findings back to the conceptual framework?* * *State the implications and/or importance of their results?* * *Point out the most important limitations?* * *• Describe the potential impact of their results?* |
| Clarity of Writing | *How well have the authors written a review that is easy to understand and of appropriate length?* |

* 1. ***Academic Medicine’s* Required Elements for Research and Review Papers**

**Required Elements for Research Papers**

**Structure:** Research papers should report completed investigations that contribute to medical education research and practice. The submitted paper must not have been accepted or be under consideration for publication elsewhere. Papers should include the sections described below and a **structured abstract limited to 300 words.** The structured abstract must include the following components: (1) Purpose; (2) Method; (3) Results; (4) Conclusions.

Research paper authors should aim for an article length that will present their message as succinctly and clearly as possible. **Most articles for the journal are between 3,000 and 4,000 words long**, not including abstract or references. *The RIME Program Planning Committee will consider longer articles, particularly those employing qualitative research methods.* Authors are welcome to provide rationale for the length during the submission process (e.g., using longer quotations to illustrate complexity of themes, including descriptions of methods and/or methodologies to orient readers, etc.).

For studies or evaluations involving human participants (including learners and/or faculty), it is the author's responsibility to provide details of ethical approval for the research in the manuscript (in the "Method" section), including but not limited to the name of the approving committee (e.g., Institutional Review Board, Research Ethics Board) and the name of the institution at which approval was granted. (Please note that at many U.S. institutions, a decision of "exempt" must be made by an Institutional Review Board or an individual designated by the institution, but may not be made by the investigator). These details must be provided in manuscript, or the manuscript will not be reviewed. Accepted papers will be considered for publication in *Academic Medicine’s* 2024 RIME supplement, so please review the journal's [Complete Instructions for Authors](http://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/Pages/InstructionsforAuthors.aspx) as well as the [Author Checklist](http://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/Pages/authorchecklist.aspx) before submitting your manuscript for consideration.

It is the responsibility of the author(s) to ensure that studies have been conducted in accordance with the latest version of the [principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.](http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/) Also, it may be useful to consult the statements on ethics of the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological Association, the American Sociological Association, and/or other national and international organizations.

**Required Elements for Review Papers**

**Structure:** Review papers should synthesize existing research and should provide direction for future research and practice. The submitted review paper must not have been accepted or be under consideration for publication elsewhere. Papers should include the sections described below and a **structured abstract limited to 300 words.** The structured abstract must include the following components: (1) Objective(s); (2) Method; (3) Results/Key Findings; (4) Conclusions/Implications.

**Review papers should be no longer than 5,000 words,** not including abstract or references, but the ultimate length will be determined during the editing process.

**Required Elements for ALL Papers (Research *and* Review Papers)**

* Please list each author's complete name, credentials, and affiliation in the space provided on the submission form. The corresponding author is the ONLY person who will be contacted by the RIME committee or the AAMC offices.
* NOTE: The individual submitting the paper MUST complete the CME disclosure agreement for ALL authors in the Scholar One system (the tool used to submit the paper).
* All manuscripts must be double-spaced and in 12-point font.
* Any tables or figures should appear at the end of the text, after the reference list.
* Be consistent with language or style choices throughout the text.
* Use common abbreviations (e.g., *P*, *r*, SD, *R*2) when values are given, but spell them out in the description of the statistical method. *P* values should be expressed as *P* = .05 (upper-case *P*, spaces on either side of sign, no 0 to left of decimal point). If in doubt, refer to the *AMA Manual of Style 11th Edition* for a complete list of statistical symbols or abbreviations and their proper format.

**Front Matter**

* The title should come first, followed by the authors’ names. Please be sure that the manuscript has a title and that all authors’ names are listed in the author line.
* The **Title** should be flush with the left margin with title-style capitalization and bolded.
* **Authors’ names** should be written as author’s first name, middle initial (optional), and last name. Include academic degrees (not fellowships or memberships) of master’s level or higher. Do not include bachelor’s degrees. Authors’ names should be separated with a comma, and the last author should be preceded with “and.”
  + *For example*: Reshma Jagsi, MD, DPhil, Rochelle DeCastro, MS, Kent A. Griffith, MS, Soumya Rangarajan, MPP, Cristina Churchill, Abigail Stewart, PhD, and Peter A. Ubel, MD
* **Author bios:** Each author should have a one-sentence bio, including initial(s) and last name, professional title, institutional affiliation, and location of institution.
  + *For example*: R. Jagsi is assistant professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
* **Corresponding author’s contact information:** Identify a corresponding author and include that person’s mailing address, phone/fax (optional), e-mail address, and Twitter handle (optional). Please ensure that this information is given in its entirety.
* **Key words:** Provide specific descriptors to allow appropriate categorization.

**Body of the Paper**

* The paper should begin with an Introduction in which the aim(s) and conceptual framework for the study is described.
* Use three primary headings, **Method, Results,** and **Discussion**, within the body of the paper. A **Conclusions** section is acceptable when applicable. These headings should be flush with the left margin, bold, 16-point font, no punctuation, hard return. The text should begin beneath the heading, flush left.
* There must be at least one full paragraph of text before the first heading in your manuscript (including “Background” or “Introduction”).
* Make each level of heading have its own “look.” For example:

**The Program**

[Level #1, the highest; on its own line; most or all words capitalized; bigger type; boldfaced]

**Program history**

[Level #2, next-highest; on its own line; only first word capitalized; standard-sized type; boldfaced]

**Current organization.** In this section, we present an outline of….

[Level #3, next-next-highest; only first word capitalized; standard-sized type; boldfaced. The words are followed by a period; the heading begins the paragraph.]

* **Subheadings in the Method, Results, Discussion sections** (if any) should be flush with the left margin, bold, 12-point font, sentence-style capitalization, no punctuation, hard return.

*For example:*

**Method**

With institutional review board approval through the University of “X” School of Medicine IRB, the study utilized a retrospective review of admission file materials drawn from the medical school applications . . .

*or:*

**Method**

The IRB at the University of “X” College of Medicine approved the following research design.

**Sample**

The random sample was drawn from all internal medicine residents who had purchased a laptop computer . . .

**End Matter**

* **Disclosures:** Please place this information at the end of the body of the report. The examples of the beginning of sentences (e.g., “The authors with to thank…”) are just illustrative—feel free to write different sentences if that seems appropriate. The category headings (e.g., *Funding/Support*) should be in italics.

*For example:*

*-- Acknowledgments:* The authors wish to thank…. [If there are no acknowledgments, this category is not needed. Use the third person, as shown here.]

*-- Funding/Support:* This study was funded in part by…. [This category is required; please include grant number(s) if applicable. “None” is what should appear after the colon if the study had no funding/support. Usually, this category includes a sentence or more about grants that supported the study and/or the authors.]

*-- Other disclosures:* Dr. Jones is a stockholder of…. [This category is also required; “None” is what should appear after the colon if there are no conflicts of interest or other necessary disclosures. Use this category to report any potential or actual conflicts of interest. If you are in doubt, report it.]

*-- Ethical approval:* This study was approved by the institutional review board of …. [This category is also required. If ethical approval was not needed, insert “Not applicable.” If the study/paper did require some form of ethical approval, the approving board/institution should be mentioned both here and in the narrative of the article.]

*-- Disclaimers:* The opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors alone and do not reflect the views of…. [If there is nothing to report, this category is not needed.]

*-- Previous presentations:* The abstract of an earlier version of this article was presented at the…. [If there is nothing to report, this category is not needed.]

-- *Data*: Specify data from outside sources and whether you obtained permission for use from the data source and any necessary review prior to submission.​ [If there is nothing to report, this category is not needed.

**Tables and Figures**

* Make all Figures and Tables active Word or PowerPoint files that can be edited, instead of static screen shots. Do not paste static images into Word; submit the original file or a high-resolution image file (i.e., minimum 300dpi, preferably tiff or jpeg) instead.
* Figures must be two-dimensional. Use black and white or patterns reproducible in black and white (e.g., stripes and dots). Eliminate gridlines and background shading.
* Table titles should make the table sufficiently understandable independent of the manuscript. Titles should be placed directly above the table, not in a data cell.
* Figure legends should make the figure sufficiently understandable independent of the manuscript. Legends should be placed on the last page in the manuscript.
* Papers do not typically include more than 5 tables and/or figures. Additional exhibits may be included as supplemental digital content (SDC), labeled sequentially as Supplemental Digital Appendix 1, Supplemental Digital Appendix 2, etc., regardless of the exhibit’s structure. See *Academic Medicine*’s guidelines for SDC at <https://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/Pages/InstructionsforAuthors.aspx#supplementaldigitalcontent.>
* Label the x and y axes.
* Send us figures that are "active" so that we or the typesetters can manipulate them if necessary. For example, don’t send pdfs of your figures, but do send Excel files.
* Create tables with the Word table function rather than by spacing and tabbing.
* Abbreviations in tables should be spelled out in a note on the first line beneath the table, before any footnotes. Format the abbreviations note as follows: “Abbreviations: MEPI = Medical Education Partnership Initiative; SSA = sub-Saharan Africa.”
* All titles and legends should be placed directly above the table and/or figure being described. Do not include the titles and legends within the actual table and/or figure.
* Footnotes are marked as superscripted lowercase letters in alphabetical order: a, b, c, etc.

**References**

* In the reference list, number the reference citations according to when they are referred to in the article (e.g., the third one is #3 in the reference list and superscript 3 in the article). Do not list references alphabetically.
* Use the *original reference number* (rather than a new one) every time a reference is referred to in the article. For example, superscript 3 is used each time for reference 3.
* Do not use “op. cit.” or “ibid.”
* Use superscripts in the article itself (rather than ordinary numbers in parentheses) to indicate the reference list numbers. In other words, do this 3 instead of this (3).
* Make sure that each reference citation has all the information readers need about a particular reference (e.g., a book should have the author or editor, title, chapter if relevant, publisher, place of publication, date, and page numbers if needed). The reference list should follow *Academic Medicine* format described in the complete instructions for authors, <http://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/Pages/InstructionsforAuthors.aspx>. **Do not use footnotes, endnotes, or a bibliographic compiler to create references.**
* Any *unpublished sources* should not be listed as references but instead should be noted within the text of your article’s narrative.
  1. **About RIME in *Academic Medicine***

RIME papers will be published in *Academic Medicine*, allowing for several benefits to the medical education community including:

* Increasing the total number of medical education research articles published in the journal each year;
* Continuing the longstanding tradition of RIME Committee autonomy with respect to the content of the program and the timeline for submissions; and
* Providing access to all RIME articles in the Supplement on the web and on *Academic Medicine’s* mobile app free of charge. In keeping with recent research on the positive effects of open access publishing, the Committee expects that free access to RIME papers may increase future citation rates.

The RIME papers will be available in electronic format only - on the web and on *Academic Medicine’s* mobile app **free of charge**.

* 1. **Editorial Manager Submission Instructions**

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Please submit your paper by visiting: <https://www.editorialmanager.com/acadmed/default2.aspx>, then login using your existing author account or register a new author account if you do not already have one. If you have an existing author account, you must login using that account.

***Important***: You will need to select **“RIME Submission”** as the article type when entering your RIME paper submission.

Finally, you will need to click on and view the PDF of your submission before it can be submitted to the editorial office (this is the final step in the submission process). You will receive a confirmation email from Editorial Manager once your manuscript has been submitted.